Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 26217 091458Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 /027 W $\,$

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R 091506Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4783

INFO COMNAVELECSYSCOM WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 26217

COMNAVELECSYSCOM ALSO FOR PME-119

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MARR, FR

SUBJECT: OMEGA AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE

REF: (A) PARIS 03835 (DTG 061934Z FEB 76), (B) PARIS 04134 (DTG 101840Z FEB 76).

- 1. SUMMARY: SENIOR MOD OFFICIAL INDICATES THAT PROSPECT FOR RATIFICATION OF OMEGA AGREEMENT REMAINS IN LIMBO. END SUMMARY.
- 2. DURING CALL ON GERARD HIBON, DIPLOMATIC ADVISER TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, EMBASSY POL/MIL OFFICER AND DEFENSE ATTACHE INQUIRED AS TO PROSPECT FOR ACTION IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE OMEGA AGREEMENT. HIBON RESPONDED WITH SOME EXASPERATION STATING THAT COUVE DE MURVILLE, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REMAINS THE ROADBLOCK TO ANY SPEEDY PARLIAMENTARY RATIFICATION. HIBON SAID THAT MINISTER OF DEFENSE BOURGES HAS MET WITH COUVE THREE TIMES TO TRY TO BREAK UP THE LOG JAM. THUS FAR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN UNFRUITFUL. HIBON SAID THAT THE MINISTRY WILL MAKE ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO MOVE OMEGA WHEN THE ASSEMBLY RECON-VENES IN OCTOBER. BECAUSE OF COUVE'S STATUS AS A SENIOR STATESMAN (EX-PRIME MINISTER AND EX-FOREIGN MINISTER), IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING IF COUVE REMAINS DISINCLINED TO MOVE THE AGREEMENT OUT OF HIS COM-CONFIDENTIAL

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MITTEE.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS GOF FOR FAVORABLE ACTION ON OMEGA. WHEN ASSEMBLY RECONVENES IN OCTOBER, WE WILL SOUND OUT COMMITTEE STAFF TO SEE IF ANY AVENUES MIGHT BE EXPLOITED THERE. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: TREATY RATIFICATION, OMEGA AGREEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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